

REMARKS

The Amendment, filed in response to the Office Action mailed September 11, 2008, is believed to be fully responsive to all issues raised in the Action. A favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Formal Matters

Upon entry of the amendment, which is respectfully requested, claims 23-25 and 28-31 are all the claims pending in the application. In the Amendment claims 22, 26 and 27 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 23 and 28 are rewritten into an independent form. No new matter is introduced.

Applicants thank the Examiner for accepting drawings filed on September 27, 2006.

Applicants further thank the Examiner for acknowledging the foreign priority claim and the receipt of certified copy of the priority documents.

Applicants further thank the Examiner for returning an initialed copy of SB/08 form filed September 27, 2006, indicating the references listed in September 27, 2006 has been considered.

Response to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In the Action, Claims 22, and 26-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glackin (US 5,082,595).

The Office asserts that Glackin teaches a carbon flexible heating structure formed by mixing silicon rubber with carbon black at a weight in the range of 100:1-15 and curing the mixture wherein the carbon flexible heating structure is reinforced with short staples, and adding a diluent for insulation (column 5, line 47-column 6, line 64).

Without conceding or commenting on the merits of the above rejection, solely in order to advance the prosecution, Applicants cancel claims 22 and 26-27, without prejudice or disclaimer, rendering the moot.

Therefore, withdrawal of rejection under 35 U.S.C.203 is respectfully requested.

Allowed and Allowable Claims

In the Action, claims 25, 25, and 29-31 are indicated as being patentable, for which Applicants thank the Examiner.

On page 2 of the Action, claims 23 and 28 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Office indicate that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 23 and 28 are rewritten in independent form, rendering the objection moot.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number **202-775-7588**.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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